AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-21 (Canceled)

Claim 22. (Currently Amended) A catheter system for treating a blood vessel lesion within a vasculature, said catheter system including:

a vascular filter guide wire being insertable and steerable through said vasculature to a position downstream of said lesion and being in contact with said vasculature during insertion;

a catheter having a lesion treatment device; and

said guide wire for being capable of directing said catheter to said lesion, said guide wire including a collapsible filter for manual deployment downstream of said catheter to trap particulate matter arising from the treatment of said lesion, wherein said filter is directly connected to said guide wire and said manual deployment of the filter occurs based on movement of said guide wire with a direct connection to said filter.

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Claim 23. (Currently Amended) A catheter system according to claim 22 wherein said vascular filter guide wire includes:

an elongated flexible core wire having a proximal end and a distal end and being insertable and steerable through a patient's vasculature to a position downstream of said lesion and being in contact with said vasculature during insertion;

a tubular flexible shaft slidably disposed along said core wire, said shaft including a proximal portion and a distal portion disposed inwardly from said core wire distal end for placement downstream of said lesion; and

said collapsible filter coupled at one end <u>directly</u> to said shaft and at its other end <u>directly</u> to said core wire, said <u>collapsible</u> filter operable in response to relative displacement between said shaft and said core wire, to radially extend outwardly within said vasculature and trap particulate matter arising from the treatment of said lesion.

Claims 24-32 (Canceled)